



PATTERNS OF HIV BEHAVIORS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENT

LET'S STOP HIV TOGETHER-EMPOWERED TO END HIV

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this project was to investigate the relationship between HIV and Intimate Partner violence (IPV). Sexual abuse of young children increases HIV cases due to risk-taking behaviors of older men, having multiple partners and low condom use. In IPV relationships, violence and fear deter women from seeking HIV testing, prevent discussing status, delay access to treatment, and other services. On College campuses, the 16-24 age group experienced the highest rate of intimate partner violence. Twenty-one percent of college students report having experienced dating violence by a current partner, and 32% of college students report experiencing IPV by a previous partner. Behaviors common to HIV, drugs, alcohol, peer pressure, and social media also increase the rates of intimate partner violence. Results from this study will assist in understanding the intersections of violence against women with HIV prevention, treatment, and care.

DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics consisted of 200 male and female students ages 18 to 24 from the Memphis/Shelby County area. Surveys were given to students to obtain levels of knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of patterns of sexual behaviors, beliefs of HIV risks, testing habits, and the use of PrEP.



METHODS

The research methods and procedures were designed to gain valuable perceptions about HIV knowledge, awareness, access to resources and services to reduce rates of new cases of HIV, reduce the number of individuals living with HIV, and increase the uptake of HIV testing and use of PrEP.

The Committee of HIV researchers, stakeholders, and students developed the qualitative survey for the study, designed to gain knowledge and attitudes about the difference in the use of condoms among committed and non-committed LGBT partners and the levels of confidence and skills to discuss HIV status, number of partners, and testing habits.

Flyers, emails, social media, and personal conversations encouraged students to participate in the study. Participants signed a consent form for the IRB-approved research project and received a ten-dollar electronic gift card for completing the survey.

OUTCOMES

The data have not been complete, the following are expected outcomes among students reporting IPV:

1. Fifty students (25%) of the 200 students will report some form of intimate partner violence.
2. Twenty-five (50%) of students will report that discussion of condom use was not held among partners.
3. Twenty students (40%) will report having multiple partners as sexual partners.
4. Fifteen (30%) students will report not always using a condom.

STUDENT LESSONS LEARNED

The lessons learned in this research were:

1. There is a need for research regarding HIV and intimate partner violence.
2. There is a need for additional research to investigate women having adverse childhood experiences and HIV.
3. There should be a need to understand history of violence and inability to discuss condom use and HIV status.
4. There is a need to develop an intervention that jointly address violence against women and HIV.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Vanderbilt University Hospital

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Peter Rebeiro, Ph. D.

St Jude Research Hospital

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